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Last spring I found a regular, spurless flower of *Viola cucullata* with revolute petals; and flowers of *V. rostrata* with several spurs were several times found.  
WM. TRELEASE.

2.—Adventitious leaves on *Rhus glabra*, L., are of common occurrence hereabouts, and this season more than usual; also occasionally on *Rhus copallina*, L. I have not observed them on any other species.\*

*Anthoxanthum odoratum*, L. is common with adventitious leaves in summer.

Many plants have made a remarkable variation in their second, or last growth, such as twin and branching or forking stems, etc. A plant of *Corallorhiza odontorhiza*, Nutt., threw up three scapes from one root. But the most remarkable behavior is the change in the flowers of *Gratiola aurea*, Muhl., some being very double, others having one flower set in another like a *Primula*. In some cases one or two buds would grow out of a flower. I enclose a few specimens I have at hand, not the most double. Thousands of them are found on the edge of a pond. ERASTUS S. WHEELER.

Berlin, Mass.

\*[Mrs. Rust, of Syracuse, sends specimens of *Rhus typhina*, L., in which the flowers are replaced by leaves. Eds.]

3.—*Monstrous Fuchsia*.—We have received from Mr. James H. Cook, of Strathroy, Canada, a fresh specimen, accompanied by an excellent pencil sketch of a monstrous *Fuchsia*, which shows the following changes: From the side of the ovary, near its base, there proceeds a perfect leaf; the ovary is normal, but the calyx limb is five-lobed, and there are but two petals. The stamens are eight in number; one of them confluent with the margin of a petal, and another having a decidedly petaloid anther. The flattened pistil is coherent with the inner surface of the calyx tube throughout the whole length of the latter, and its exposed portion is provided with a narrow, finely-serrated lamina which extends as far as the five stigmas.

§ 79. **Pine Barren Plants in Rhode Island.**—I was much interested in Mr. Britton's article in the July number, on the Northward Extension of the New Jersey Pine Barrens Flora. We have a little piece of that peculiar region in Southern Rhode Island. In his list I check the following as certainly occurring with us: *Hudsonia ericoides*, L., very abundant; *Tephrosia Virginiana*, Pers., frequent; *Aster nemoralis*, Ait.; \**A. concolor*, L.; *Chrysopsis falcata*, Ell., abundant; *Gaylussacia dumosa*, T. & Gr.; *Kalmia angustifolia*, L.; *Asclepias obtusifolia*, Michx.; *Spiranthes simplex*, Gray; *Xyris flexuosa*, Muhl.; *X. Caroliniana*, Walt.; *Glyceria obtusa*, Trin.; *Coreopsis rosea*, Nutt., this year superabundant; *Eupatorium hyssopifolium*, L.; *Aster spectabilis*, Ait.; *Solidago puberula*, Nutt.; *Cupressus thyoides*, L.; *Sporobolus serotinus*, Gray; and *Lycopodium inundatum*, L. I could add many peculiar southern forms, like *Lachnanthes*, long ago found by Dr. Thurber and my father at Worden's Pond. I commend that locality, which is

\* *Aster Herveyi*, A. Gray, it will be remembered was also found within our limits last year by Prof. Sargent.  
W. W. B.

easily reached from Narragansett Pier or Watch Hill, to all collectors who come to the Plantations.

W. W. BAILEY.

Providence, R. I., Sept. 10, 1880.

§ 80. **Botanical News.**—The *Botanisches Centralblatt* is the title of a new weekly journal published under the editorship of Dr. O. Uhlworm, of Leipzig. The object of the publication is to supply brief abstracts in each issue of every important new independent paper in a scientific journal, in all branches of botanical science; a complete index to titles of recent botanical literature in all countries; brief original communications; reports of museums, gardens, botanical explorations, etc.; personal news, etc. Dr. Uhlworm has secured the co-operation of correspondents in the various towns of Germany, France, England, Switzerland, Sweden, Denmark, Greece, Russia, Holland, etc., and invites the further assistance of botanists in all countries to render the *Centralblatt* as complete and useful as possible. The Editor's address is Südstrasse, 82, Leipzig.

Trimen's *Journal of Botany* for July contains: Enumeratio Acanthacearum Herbarii Welwitschiani Angolensis, by S. LeM. Moore; Cardamine pratensis and its Segregates, by G. Nicholson; On Lattakia Tobacco, by W. T. Thiselton Dyer; Botany of the British Polar Expedition, by H. C. Hart; and On a Collection of Ferns made by Dr. Beccari in Sumatra, by J. G. Baker.

In the *Botanical Gazette* for July, Mr. Meehan discusses the vitality of pine seeds; Dr. Gray calls attention to the proterandry of *Eremurus robustus*; Prof W. W. Bailey records a case of albinism in *Arethusa bulbosa*; Mr. L. H. Bailey gives a short list of Michigan Lake shore-plants; and another writer notes the occurrence of six fungi on *Anemone nemorosa*. The Editor of the *Gazette* announces his intention of closing his sanctum for two months, and of partaking of a luxury seldom accorded to journalists—that of a vacation.

*Origin of Flowers through Insect Selection.*—Not long since, Dr. Herman Müller, it will be remembered, published a work in which he endeavors to explain the existing variations in the forms of flowers on the principle of "selection." His supposition is that insects of different tastes breed peculiar flowers just as men breed peculiar races of cattle. Carrion-loving insects breed their kind of flowers; long-tongued insects the tubular kinds; and many other classes of insects have each bred the flowers they love best. Dr. Müller has a note in *Nature* of July 8th, in which he points out that the European *Saxifraga umbrosa* has been adorned with its present brilliant colors through selection by dipterous insects of the family Syrphidae. He says:

"Among Diptera the most assiduous visitors of flowers are certain Syrphidae, which, elegantly colored themselves, are fond of splendid flower-colors, and, before eating pollen or sucking nectar, like to stop awhile, hovering free in the air, in front of their favorites, apparently fascinated, or at least delighted, by the brilliancy of their colors. Thus I repeatedly observed *Syrphus balteatus* hovering before the flowers of *Verbascum nigrum*, and often before *Melanostoma mellina*; *Ascia podagrica* before *Veronica chamaedrys*; and in